



***Substitute House Bill No. 5358***

***Special Act No. 04-8***

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON  
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (*Effective October 1, 2004*) (a) There is established an interagency task force on trafficking in persons. For the purposes of this section, "trafficking" means all acts involved in the recruitment, abduction, transport, harboring, transfer, sale or receipt of persons, within national or across international borders, through force, coercion, fraud or deception, to place persons in situations of slavery or slavery-like conditions, forced labor or services, such as forced prostitution or sexual services, domestic servitude, bonded sweatshop labor or other debt bondage.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members or their designees:

- (1) The Attorney General;
- (2) The Chief State's Attorney;
- (3) The Chief Public Defender;
- (4) The Commissioner of Public Safety;
- (5) The Labor Commissioner;
- (6) The Commissioner of Social Services;
- (7) The Commissioner of Public Health;
- (8) The Commissioner of Children and Families;
- (9) The Child Advocate;
- (10) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly on the judiciary;
- (11) The chairperson of the Commission on Children;
- (12) The chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women;
- (13) The chairperson of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission;
- (14) The chairperson of the African-American Affairs Commission;
- (15) A municipal police chief appointed by the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association; and
- (16) Seven public members appointed as follows: The Governor shall appoint one member who shall represent Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc. ; the president pro tempore of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall

represent an organization that provides civil legal services to low-income individuals; the speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member who shall represent the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence; the majority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall represent an organization that deals with behavioral health needs of women and children; the majority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member who shall represent an organization that advocates on social justice and human rights issues; the minority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall represent the Connecticut Immigrant and Refugee Coalition; and the minority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member who shall represent the Asian-American community.

(c) The chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women or the chairperson's designee shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. The task force shall select a chairperson from among its membership. The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women shall provide any necessary support staff or services for the task force.

(d) The task force shall:

(1) Collect and organize data on the nature and extent of trafficking in persons in the state;

(2) Investigate collaborative models for protecting victims of trafficking;

(3) Measure and evaluate the progress of the state in (A) preventing trafficking, (B) protecting and providing assistance to victims of trafficking, and (C) prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking;

(4) Identify available federal, state and local programs that provide services to victims of trafficking that include, but are not limited to, health care, human services, housing, education, legal assistance, job training or preparation, interpreting services, English as a second language classes, voluntary repatriation and victim's compensation;

(5) Evaluate approaches to increase public awareness of trafficking;

(6) Analyze existing state criminal statutes for their adequacy in addressing trafficking and, if such analysis determines that those statutes are inadequate, recommend revisions to those statutes or the enactment of new statutes that specifically define and address trafficking; and

(7) Consult with governmental and nongovernmental organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of trafficking and prosecute traffickers.

(e) All state and local agencies shall cooperate with the task force and provide such data and other information as the task force may require in carrying out its duties under this section.

(f) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes not later than January 1, 2006.

Approved May 21, 2004